

PCT



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yoshiyuki Mitani

Serial No. 10/542,533

Filed: July 16, 2005

For: METHOD OF FORMING ANODIC OXIDE
LAYER ON SURFACE OF ALUMINUM
OR ALUMINUM ALLOY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant cites the International Search Report in this case and encloses an English translation of the same. The prior art cited in said report was apparently sent to the Examiner with the Official copy of the International Search Report. No translation of the references is available.

Respectfully submitted,

William D. Hall
Register 14,311
Attorney for Applicant

10850 Stanmore Drive
Potomac, MD 20854-1522
Tel. (301) 983-5070

Column V: Remarks defined by Article 12 (PCT Article 35(2)) on novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, and reference and explanation supporting the remarks

1. Remarks	Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1 to 8</u>	Yes
		Claim <u></u>	No
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>7 and 8</u>	Yes
		Claims <u>1 to 6</u>	No.
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1 to 8</u>	Yes
		Claim <u></u>	No

2. Reference and explanation

Reference JP 02-097698 A (Minoru Mitani), April 10, 1990
The patent claim, p. 2, right upper column, lines 13-17, p. 2, right lower column, line 1 to p. 3, right lower column, line 12, and p. 4, left lower column, lines 4-9.

Reference JP 54-128453 A (Hoechst Aktiengesellschaft), October 5, 1979, p. 3, left upper column, line 10 to p. 4, left upper column, line 18.

Reference JP 55-006489 A (Sunford Process Corporation), January 17, 1980, p. 2, right lower column, line 19 to p. 3, left lower column, line 6.

Reference JP 2001-152391 A (Soken Incorporated) June 5, 2001, paragraphs [0020], [0021] and [0034]

The inventions associated with Claims 1 to 2 and 4 to 6 lack in inventive step over reference 1 (patent claims, p. 2, right upper column, lines 13-17, p. 2, right lower column, line 1 to p. 3, right lower column, line 12, and p. 4, left lower column, lines 4-9) and reference 2 (p. 3, left upper column, line 10 to p. 4, left upper column, line 18) both cited in International Study Report. One skilled in the art can easily raise the voltage applied during anodic oxidation for the purpose of obtaining a strong and dense anodized film when one takes into account reference 2 in a surface treating process with which a harder complex coating is formed on the surface of aluminum or aluminum alloys as set forth in reference 1.

Supplementary column

In case where the space of either column is not enough.

Continuation of Column V

The inventions associated with Claims 1 to 2 and 4 to 6 lack in inventive step over reference 1 (patent claims, p. 2, right upper column, lines 13-17, p. 2, right lower column, line 1 to p. 3, right lower column, line 12, and p. 4, left lower column, lines 4-9) and reference 3 (p. 2, right lower column, line 19 to p. 3, left lower column, line 6) both cited in International Search Report. One skilled in the art can easily raise the voltage applied during anodic oxidation for the purpose of obtaining a hard anodized film when one takes into account reference 3 in a surface treating process with which a strong and dense complex coating is formed on the surface of aluminum or aluminum alloys as set forth in reference 1.

The inventions associated with Claim 3 lacks in inventive step over references 1, 2 and 4 (paragraphs [0020], [0021] and [0034] cited in International Search Report. In the hard-quality anodizing oxidation process set forth in references 1 and 2, one skilled in the art can easily incorporate tartaric acid in the electrolytic solution.

The inventions associated with Claim 3 lacks in inventive step over references 1, 3 and 4 (paragraphs [0020], [0021] and [0034] cited in International Search Report. In the hard-quality anodizing oxidation process set forth in references 1 and 3, one skilled in the art can easily incorporate tartaric acid in the electrolytic solution.

The inventions associated with Claims 7 to 8 are not set forth in any reference cited in International Study Report, and are not obvious for those skilled in the art.